

**Central Vermont Community Action Council, Inc.
Barre, VT**

Project Title	Central Vermont Community Action Council IDA Program
Contact Information	Linda Macris 195 US Route 302-Berlin Barre, VT 05641 (802) 479-1053
AFI Grant Amount	\$200,000
Nonfederal Support	\$200,000
Project Period	September 2002 – September 2007
Highlights	Central Vermont Community Action Council (CVCAC) is expanding existing AFI and IDA programs to offer 170 new IDAs: 80 homeownership IDAs, 60 microenterprise IDAs, and 30 post-secondary education IDAs. The match rate is \$2 to \$1 (and \$3 to \$1 for TANF participants), up to \$2,000 saved over a 60 month period. Services beyond core training include employment support, crisis management, structured planning exercises, mentoring, peer support, counseling, and others.
Target Population	Families throughout Vermont.
Grantee/Collaborative Description	CVCAC is a Community Action Agency founded in 1967, with experience operating IDAs since 1997. Under this project, five CAAs, and a regional land trust that runs a homeownership center, handle outreach, account opening, case management, and service delivery. CAA partners include Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Northeast Kingdom Community Action, and Southeastern Vermont Community Action. The five banks waiving account fees for IDA participants and supporting financial education include: Vermont Development Credit Union, First Vermont Bank, Passumpsic Savings Bank, Community National Bank, and Merchants Bank. Most matching funds are from the Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity, with an additional \$23,530 from Gilman Housing Trust.